

Wembley 0, Wycombe Wanderers 5

TUESDAY evening's interlude from the pressures and nervous strains of the Isthmian League title chase gave Wycombe Wanderers a chance—lightheartedly but effectively taken—to establish an unassailable lead at the head of the Premier Floodlight League Section A table.

Their re-shuffled hotch-potch of a line-up at Vale Farm began cautiously, then tore Wembley apart with the type of slick, dissecting football that would have been welcomed at Leytonstone last Saturday.

Once the ball had been set rolling through an opening penalty goal, the Blues rammed back with interest the memory of that 2-1 defeat at Loakes Park one cold night earlier in the season, when the Lions' brawn had thrown their Isthmian opponents completely off balance.

PLAYING 'STRAIGHT'

This time around they tried to play it "straight" and were dealt with accordingly as the gap between the two sides became ever more evident, despite Wembley's almost full-strength turnout.

There to see the mauling was Watford manager, Ken Furphy, just one of many to show more than a little interest in Peter Suddaby. It is doubtful whether he could make any conclusions from what he saw, however.

After their first goal, Wycombe had that "free" look about them which is always a joy to watch. Johnny Hutchinson kept an alert look-out for openings on the left-wing, while from nowhere, seemingly, an understanding developed between Vince Faulkner and Keith Searle to completely shatter the home side's resistance.

Wycombe set a fair course for the section title when awarded a penalty in the 25th minute. Walsh fouled Searle, who duly had no trouble in transferring the spot kick into goal.

The visitors tried several long-range shots at ex-Hendon 'keeper Whittaker, but it was not until almost half-time that Hutchinson netted the second.

NEW MAN

Topman replaced Jackson for the Lions in the second period, while Blunt took over from Rundle after 55 minutes, and two minutes later, Faulkner headed the ball on for Searle to nod in to make it 3-0.

Five minutes later Whittaker got two feet to a Searle shot, and Faulkner somehow failed in his attempt to run the rebound into the net.

But all was forgiven after another five minutes when Searle sent a fine swerving pass into the goalmouth to be headed home in spectacular style by Faulkner.

The fifth goal was handed to Wanderers on a plate, adequately summing up the state of Wembley's teamwork at the time.

With five minutes to play, Topman sent a risky pass across into centre field where Hutchinson was quick to intercept and drive the ball home past Whittaker.

M.W.

WEMBLEY: Whittaker; Walsh, Beck; Dilworth, Jackson (sub. Topham), Short; Wooley, Pudney, Alan, McEntaggart, Raynor.

W Y C O M B E W A N D E R E R S :
O'Brien; Thomas, Royston; Stephen-
son, Rundle (sub.: K. Blunt),
Lalley; Faulkner, Baker, Searle,
Suddaby, Hutchinson.

SECTION A

TOP POSITIONS

	P	Pts	Max. poss.
Wycombe W.	13	26	(28)
Hayes	14	25	
Hillingdon	13	18	(21)